

# Important!

**November 20:**

Semester ends. A sample multiple-choice test will be administered and discussed in class.

**December 11<sup>st</sup>** call. Test will be in Aula Magna Edif H3 Time: 15:30-16:30 (one hour).

# Review of scholarly texts

- Work email
- Résumé
- Curriculum Vitae
- Paper
- Thesis / Dissertation

- **Paper** (Congress, symposium, course work)
- **Thesis** (Bachelor or Masters degree)
- **Dissertation** (Ph.D.)

**Differ**

- in length
- in depth

**Similar:**

- in style (formal)

## Definition

A **thesis or dissertation** is a document submitted in support of candidature for an academic degree or professional qualification presenting the author's **research and findings**.

In some contexts, the word "thesis" or a cognate is used for part of a bachelor's or master's course, while "dissertation" is normally applied to a doctorate, while in other contexts, the reverse is true.

The term **graduate thesis** is sometimes used to refer to both master's theses and doctoral dissertations.

# Etymology

The term "thesis" comes from the Greek **θέσις**, meaning "something put forth", and refers to an **intellectual proposition**.

"Dissertation" comes from the Latin **dissertātiō**, meaning **"discussion"**.



# THE GRADUATE THESIS

Getting Started

Planning Your Graduate Degree

The Supervisory Committee

Roles and Responsibilities

The Working Relationship

**The Graduate Thesis**

The Thesis Proposal

Before you Start to Write

Defending the Thesis

Your thesis will be the final product of your time in graduate school. You should be planning your thesis from the very beginning of your degree program.

A thesis is a substantial piece of scholarly writing that reflects the writer's ability to:

- conduct research
- communicate the research
- critically analyze the literature
- present a detailed methodology and accurate results
- verify knowledge claims and sources meticulously
- link the topic of the thesis with the broader field

A thesis at the doctoral level is called a dissertation, but dissertations and theses are usually referred to collectively as theses.

There are some differences between a master's and a doctoral thesis:

- A master's thesis must demonstrate that the student knows the background and principal works of the research area, and can produce significant scholarly work. It should contain some original contribution whenever possible.

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/handbook-graduate-supervision/graduate-thesis>

Getting Started	▼
Planning Your Graduate Degree	▼
The Supervisory Committee	▼
Roles and Responsibilities	
The Working Relationship	▼
<b>The Graduate Thesis</b>	▲
Thesis Proposal	>
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Research Ethics: A Guide for Graduate Students	

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- A doctoral thesis must contain a substantial contr analysis of original research, and should be significant

The UBC Library keeps electronic copies of all these: a look for examples of theses in your area of interest

Do not follow the formatting of these theses. Please refer

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←—————▶ **Bibliography**

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- A master's thesis must demonstrate that the student knows the background and principal works of the research area, and can produce significant scholarly work. It should contain some original contribution whenever possible.
- A doctoral thesis must contain a substantial contribution of new knowledge to the field of study. It presents the results and an analysis of original research, and should be significant enough to be published.

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/handbook-graduate-supervision/graduate-thesis>



# In Italy

In Italy there are normally three types of thesis. In order of complexity:

- One for the **Laurea** (equivalent to the UK Bachelor's Degree),
- another one for the **Laurea Magistrale** (equivalent to the UK Master's Degree),
- and then a thesis to complete the **Dottorato di Ricerca** (PhD).

Thesis requirements vary greatly between degrees and disciplines, ranging from as low as 3 – 4 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits to more than 30.

Thesis work is **mandatory** for the completion of a degree.

**M.Sc.**

Master of Science < lat. Magister Scientiæ

**Laurea Magistrale**

**M.A.** Master of Arts.

**Ph.D.**

Philosophiae Doctor. Dottorato di Ricerca

**A. B. D.** (All But Dissertation)

# Time is **not** of the essence!

Theses and dissertations are complicated pieces of work and are not easy to write. You can help yourself with this challenging task by **planning** ←  
**the structure of your work very**  
→ **thoroughly**. You will want to show the plan to your supervisor before you start to write it. Your discussions with your supervisor will very often result in changes to your plan so **allow** ←  
**yourself plenty of time for the planning stage** of the process.

# Planning

- |                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. Who is this writing for? | AUDIENCE   |
| 2. What do I want to say    | CONTENT    |
| 3. Why do I want to say it? | MOTIVATION |

Based on: [HarperCollins. Writing \(Collins Webster's Easy Learning\) . HarperCollins Publishers. 2011. Kindle Edition.](#)

# Planning

1. Why do I want to say it? **MOTIVATION**
2. Who is this writing for? **AUDIENCE**
3. What do I want to say **CONTENT**

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HarperCollins Publishers. 2011. Kindle Edition.



# Tac con radiazioni dimezzate grazie a un nuovo algoritmo: premiate due ingegnere italiane



Illichia D'Intini e Federica Caracciolo

*Il loro protocollo potrà ridurre significativamente l'esposizione alle radiazioni, soprattutto per quei pazienti come i malati oncologici che sono costretti a ripetute analisi*

ROMA. Tac con radiazioni dimezzata, grazie a due giovani ingegnere cliniche di Napoli che hanno superato la concorrenza di 162 progetti, elaborando un protocollo per ridurre del 40-60% l'esposizione garantendo una buona qualità dell'immagine. Si tratta di un algoritmo che permetterà il collaudo di macchine di varie aziende e in diversi modelli in modo da poter effettuare le Tac a dosi ridotte.

Le due giovani ingegnere campane sono le vincitrici del Primo premio assoluto dell'Health technology challenge (Htc). Il premio è stato consegnato durante il XIX Congresso dell'Associazione nazionale degli ingegneri clinici (AICC) che si è svolto a Catanzaro. Le due ingegnere di Napoli, Michela D'Anto, della Fondazione G. Pascale e Federica Caraco, dell'Università degli studi Federico II, hanno ottenuto il massimo punteggio della giuria tecnica e popolare con il progetto "Valutazione di un protocollo per la verifica delle funzionalità di un sistema di riduzione della dose installato su tomografi assiali derizzati".

Write a summary of the article trying to answer the following question:

Most cancer patients must be exposed to heavy amounts of radiation

Is there a way to reduce this amount?



# Graduate Theses or Dissertations

Dissertations normally report on a research project or study, or an extended analysis of a topic.

The structure of a thesis or dissertation explains the purpose, the previous research literature impinging on the topic of the study, the methods used, and the findings of the project.

# Structure (1)

Most world universities use a multiple chapter format :

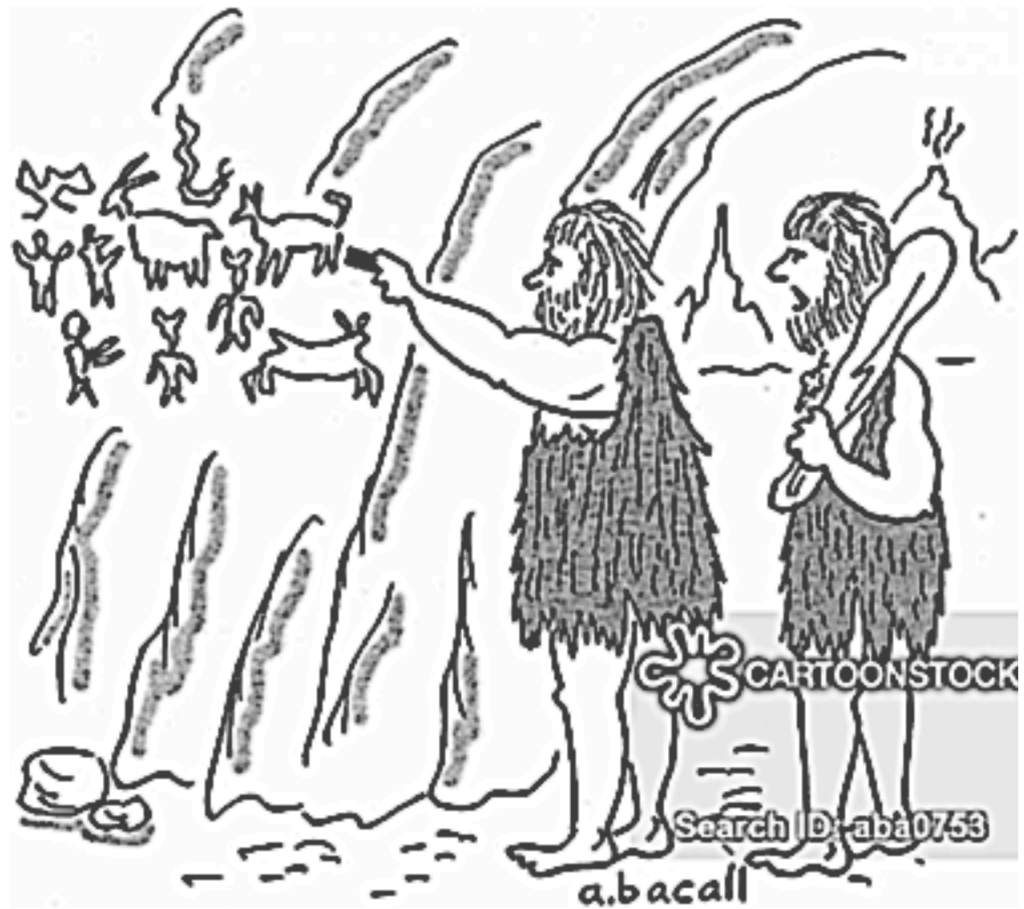
- a) **an introduction**, which introduces the research topic, the methodology, as well as its scope and significance;
- b) **a literature review**, reviewing relevant literature and showing how this has informed the research issue;
- c) **a methodology** chapter, explaining how the research has been designed and why the research methods/ population/data collection and analysis being used have been chosen.

*Thomas, Gary (2009) Your Research Project. Thousand Oaks: Sage.*

## Structure (2)

- d) **a findings chapter**, outlining the findings of the research itself;
- e) **an analysis and discussion** chapter, analysing the findings and discussing them in the context of the literature review (this chapter is often divided into two—analysis and discussion);
- f) **a conclusion**

*Thomas, Gary (2009) Your Research Project. Thousand Oaks: Sage.*



In the future, that should produce thousands of Ph.D. theses.

6/10/19